



HEALTHIER, LONGER,  
BETTER LIVES

# All things about life insurance inside SMSFs

March 2021

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# Investment strategy

- Insurance must be considered & decision recorded
- Penalty = \$4,440 to corporate trustee or to each individual trustee (up to \$17,760)!

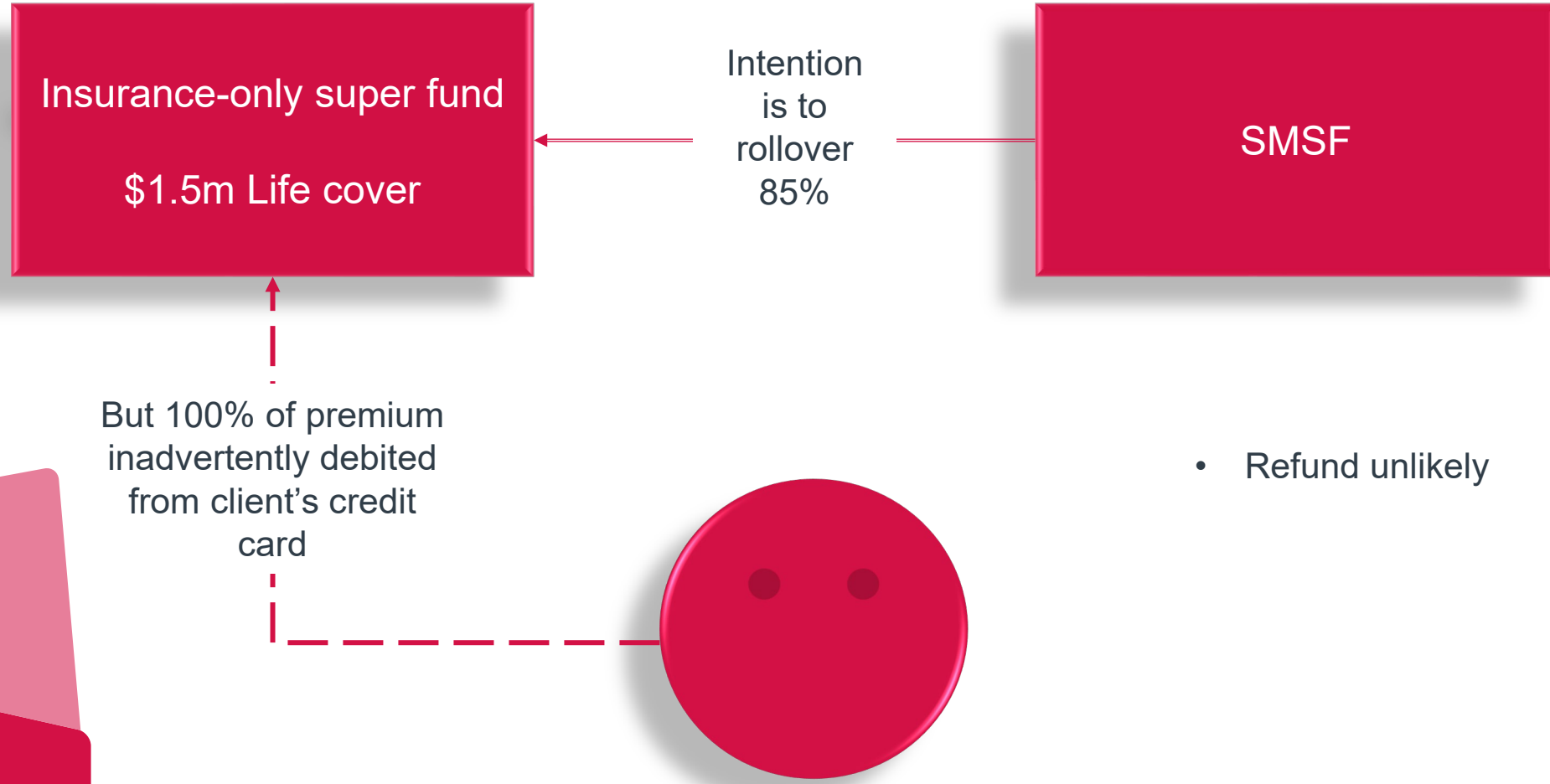


# SIS alignment

- With 4 conditions of release
- Second line of defence

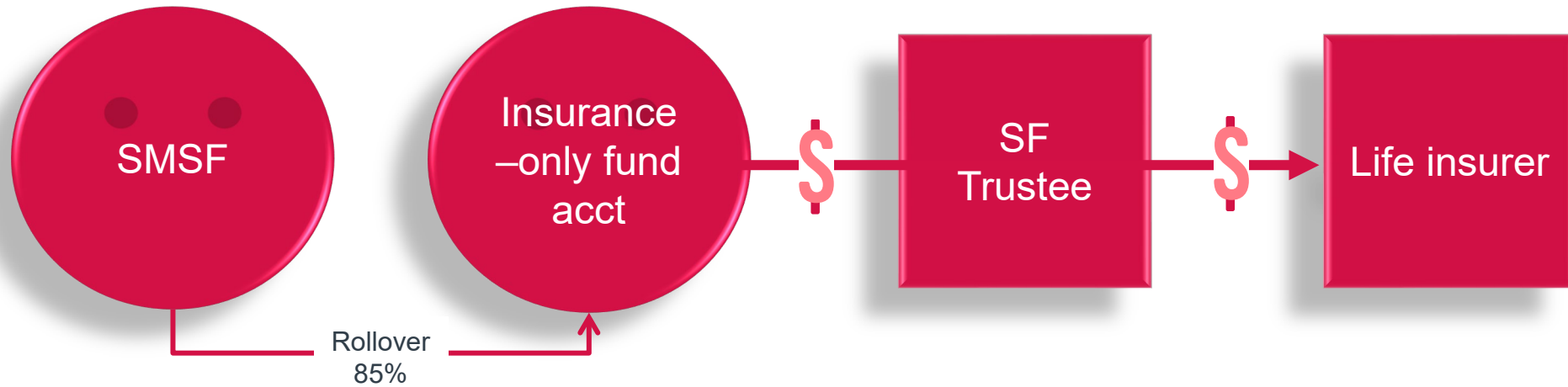


# Common hiccups

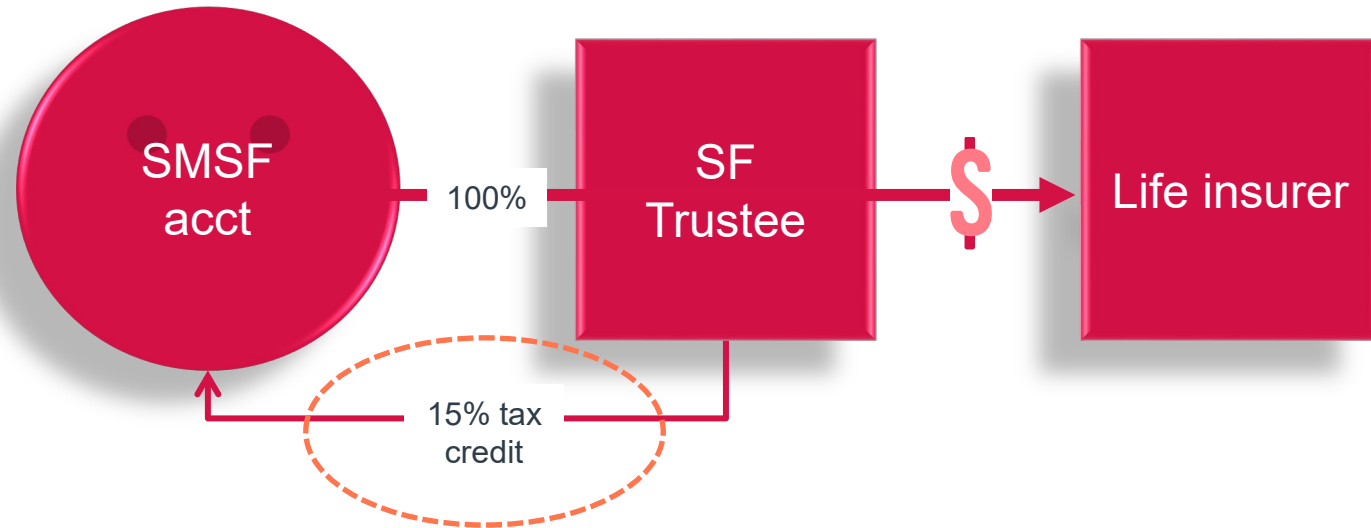


# SMSF v risk-only

A



B

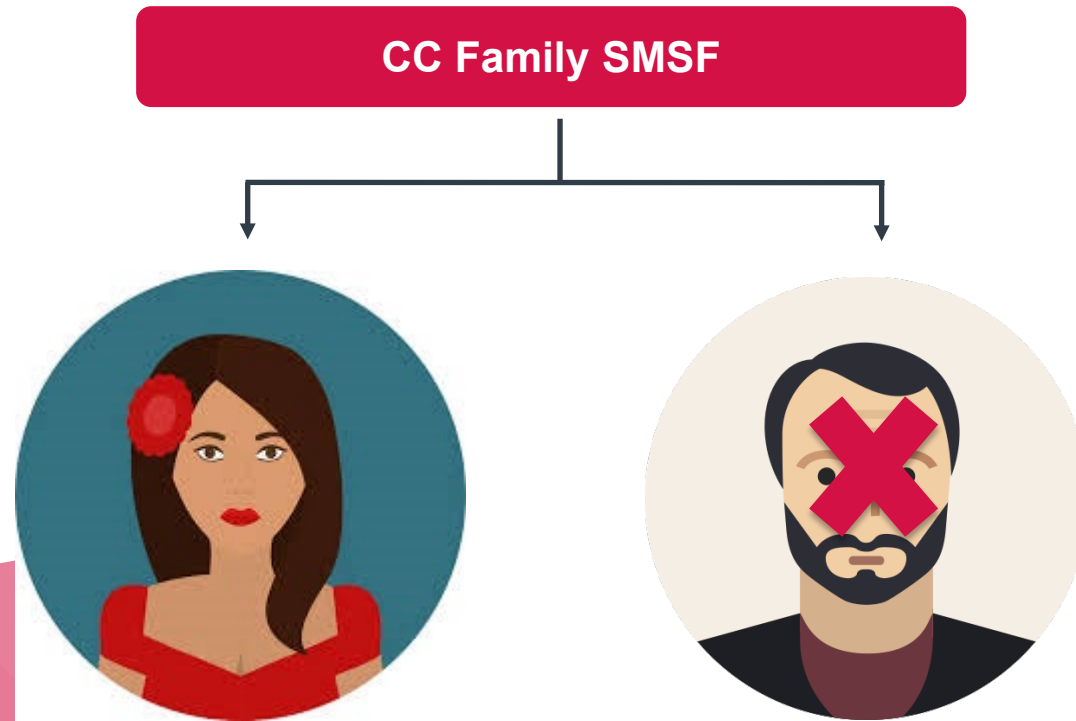


# 'Future liability' deduction

- If insurance in an SMSF
- Life insured employed and dies/TPD before 65
- SMSF to stay 'alive' post death



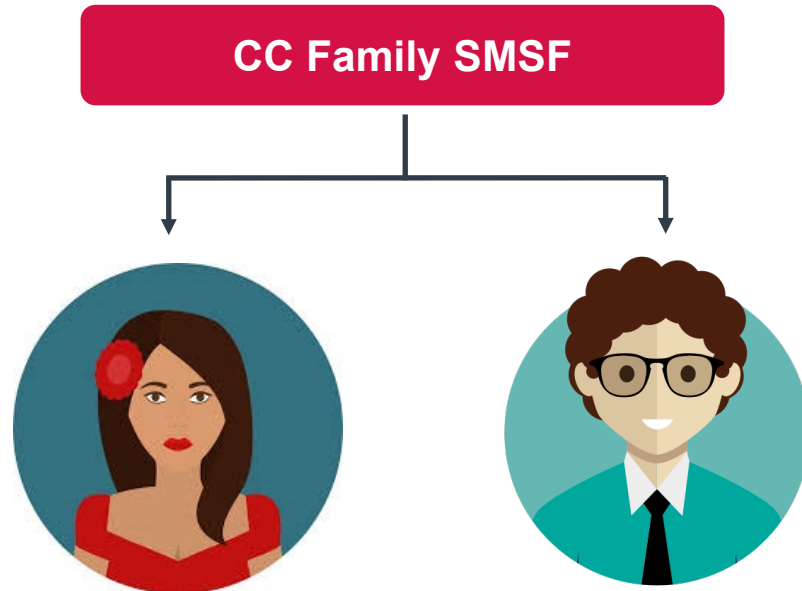
# Example



- Carlos dies at age 50
- Service period = 15 years
- Total death benefit (incl insurance) = \$2,450,000
- Claim tax deduction for premiums or elect for future service deduction?

# 'Future liability' deduction

- If insurance in an SMSF ✓
- Life insured employed and dies/TPD before 65 ✓
- SMSF to stay 'alive' post death ?



Adult son Cristian joins SMSF

Tax deduction = benefit  
amount x (future service days /  
total service days)

$\$2,450,000 \times (15 \text{ years} / 30 \text{ years})$

**\$1,225,000**

# 'Future liability' deduction - takeaway

- s295-470 ITAA 1997
- SMSF member passes away / tpd'd
  - Insurance in SMSF
- SMSF to remain active

## Mr and Mrs Smith Personal Balance sheet

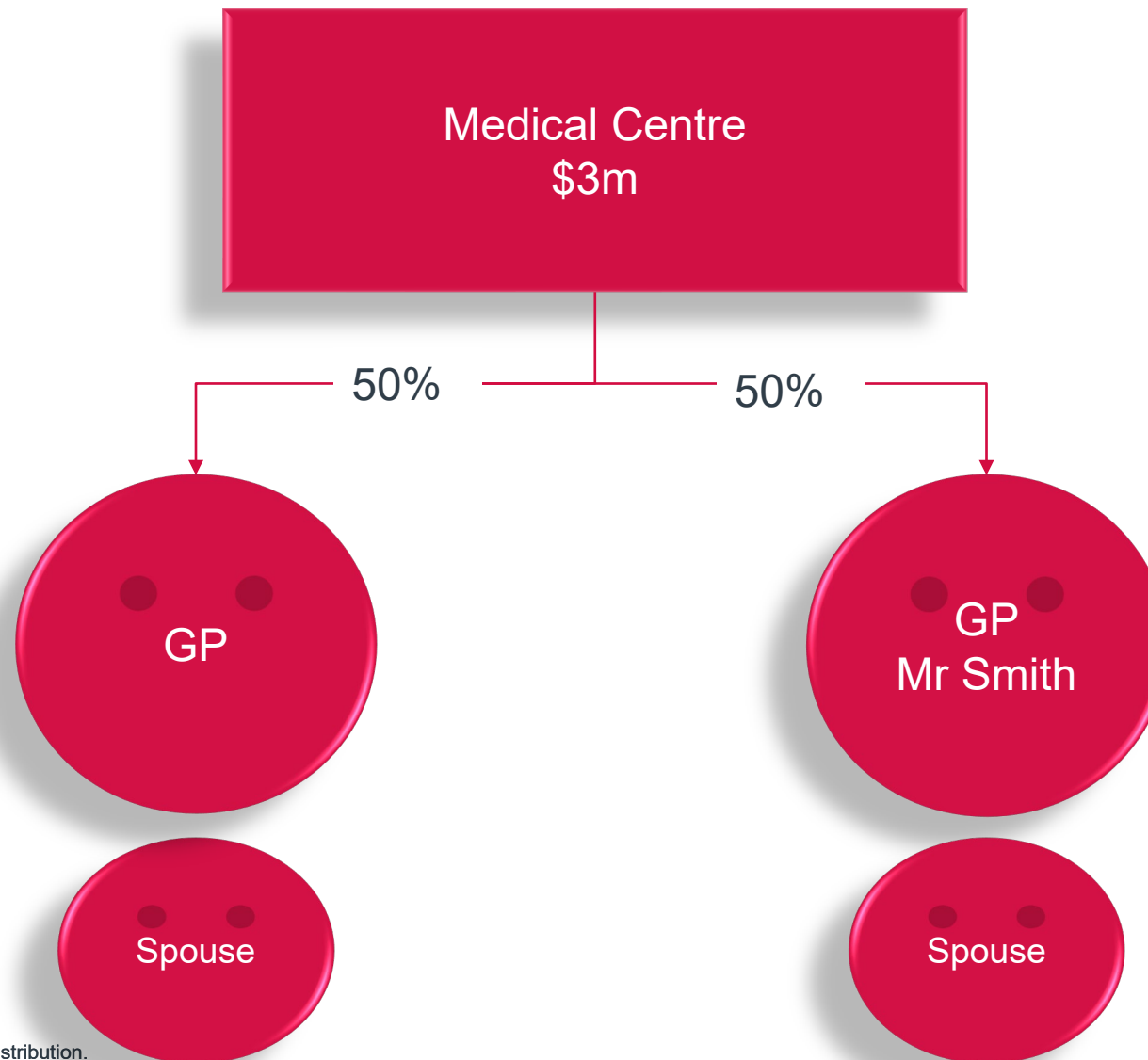
| Assets                                  |           | Liabilities              |         |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------|
| Home                                    | 1,800,000 | Home mortgage            | Nil     |
| Lifestyle assets                        | 200,000   |                          |         |
| Cash at bank                            | 70,000    |                          |         |
| Managed Discretionary Account Portfolio | 1,800,000 |                          |         |
| Investment Property                     | 1,000,000 | Investment Property Loan | 700,000 |
|                                         |           |                          |         |
| 50% shareholding in medical practice    | 1,500,000 |                          |         |
|                                         |           |                          |         |
| SMSF                                    |           |                          |         |
| - Mr Smith                              | 1,500,000 |                          |         |
| - Mrs Smith                             | 1,100,000 |                          |         |
|                                         |           |                          |         |

Seemingly no need for life cover as non-deductible debt nil...

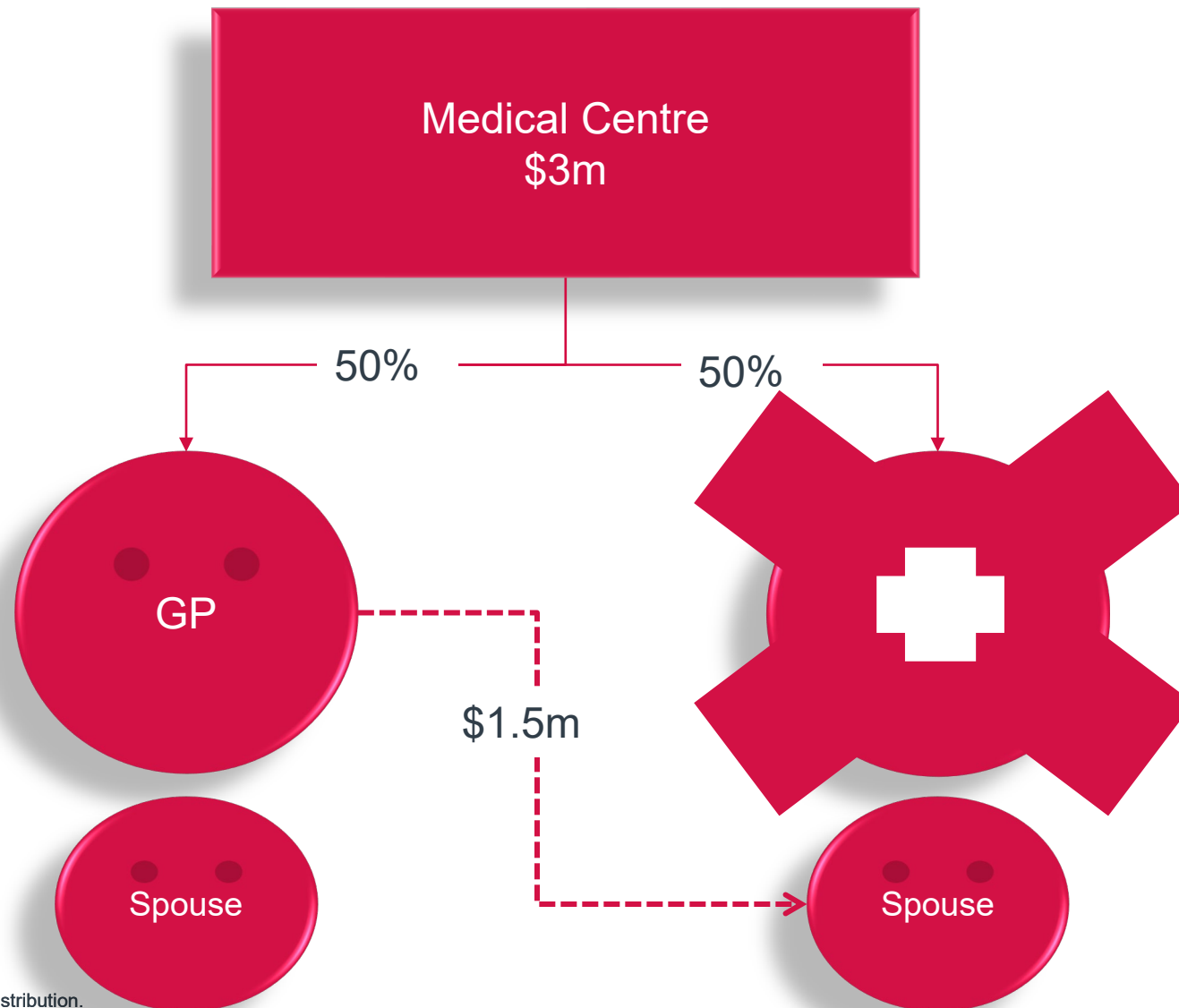
...however what happens to the shares upon a premature death/tpd?



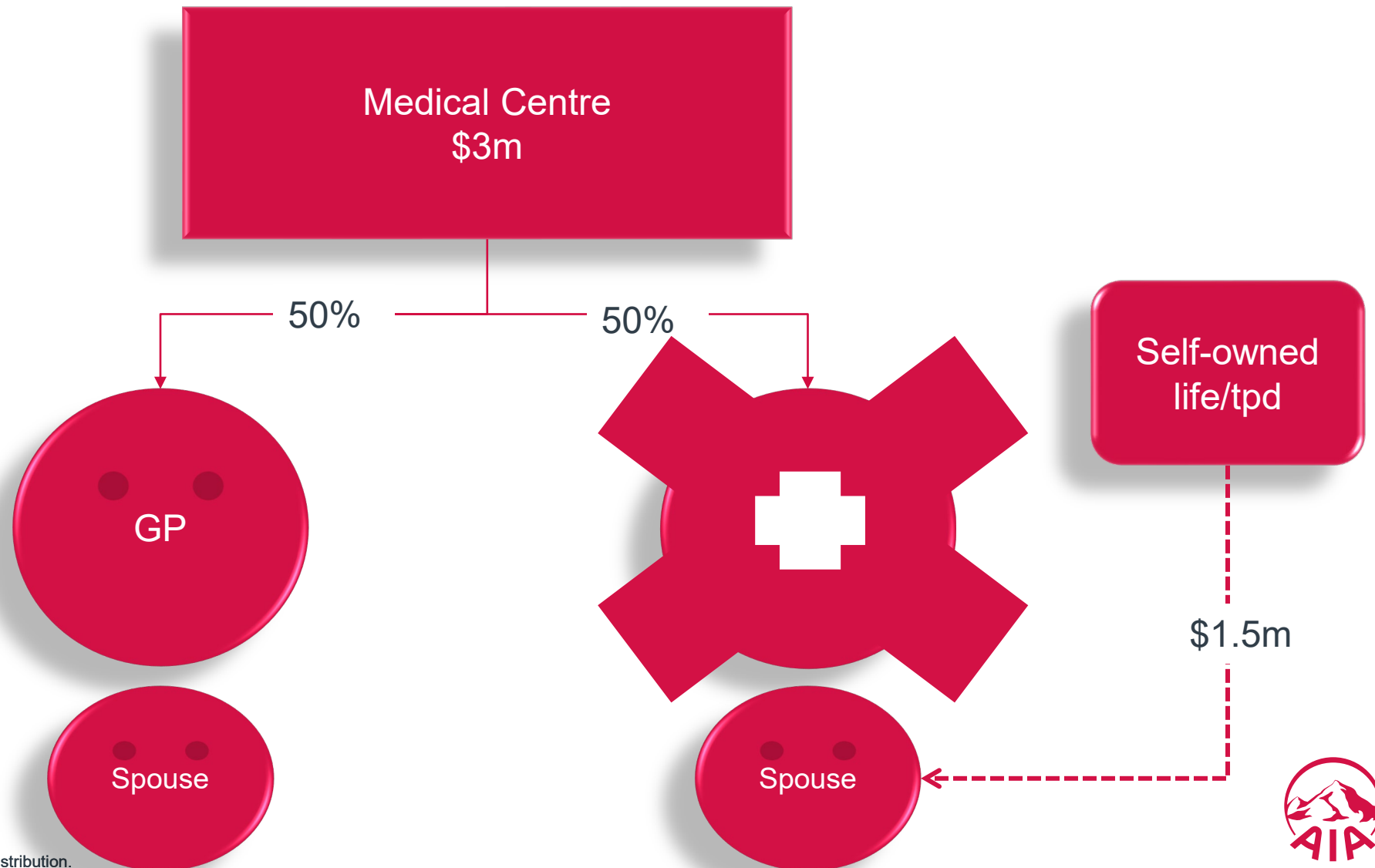
# Buy/sell 101



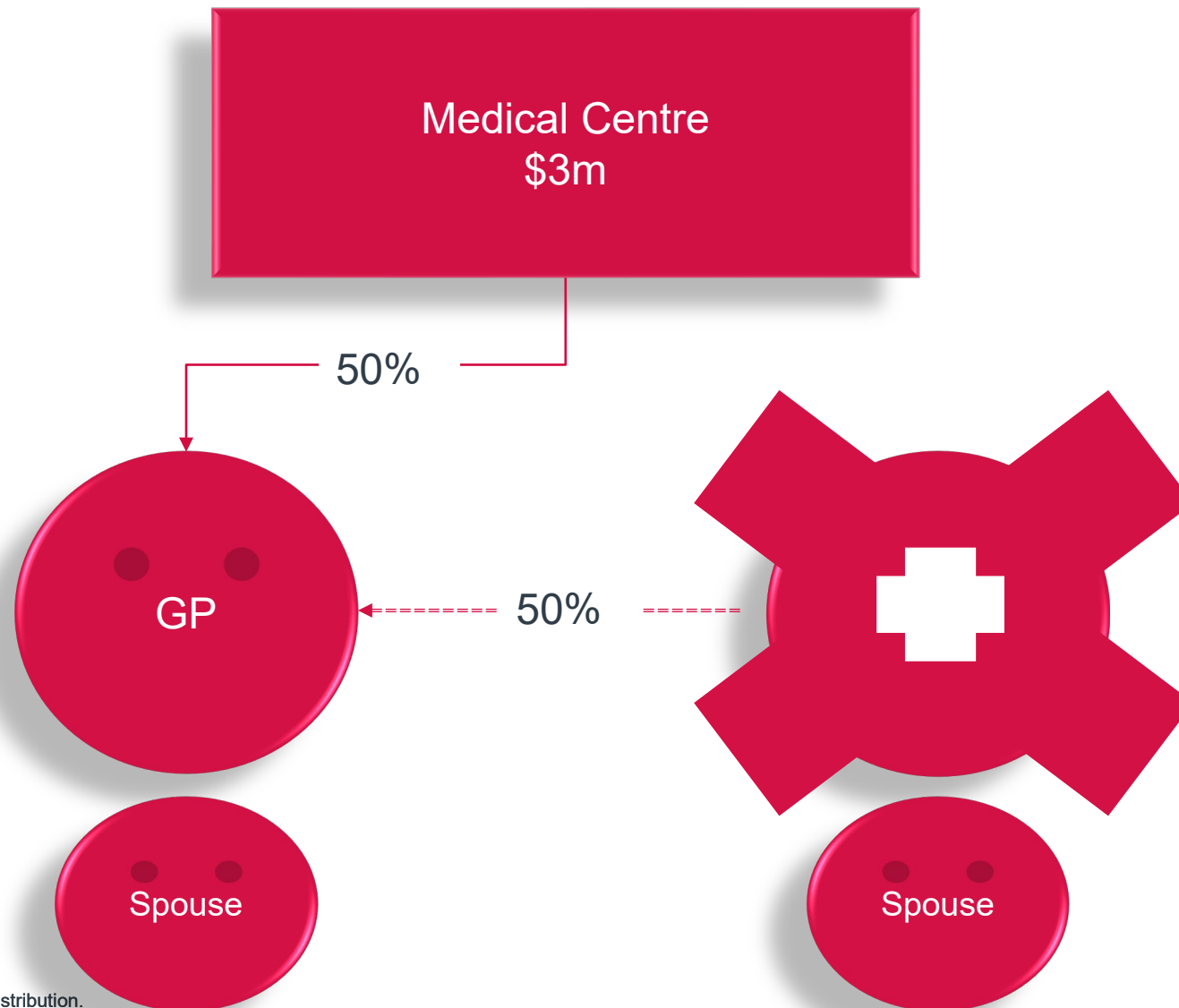
# Buy/sell 101



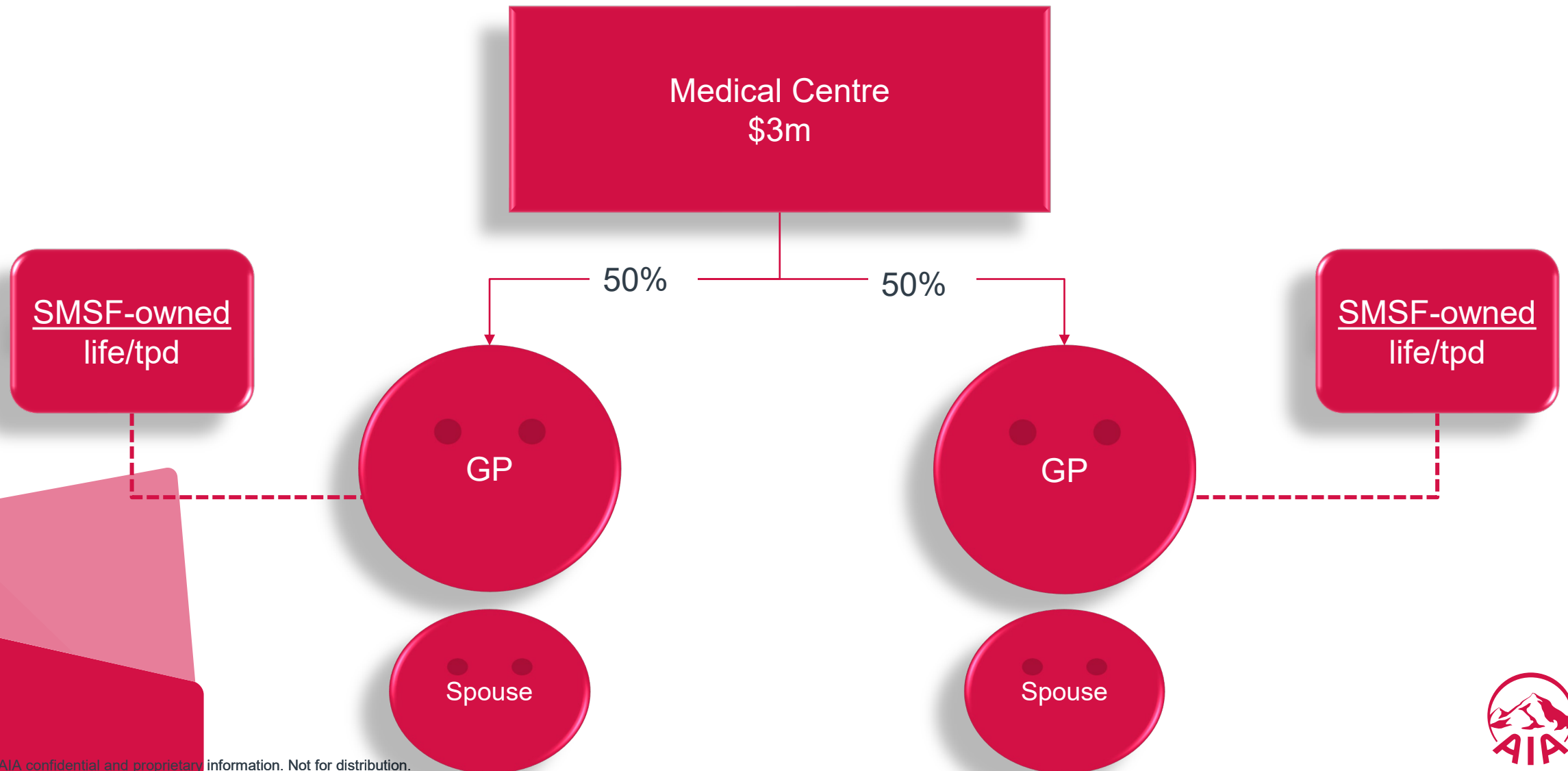
# Buy/sell 101



# Buy/sell 101



# SMSF-owned cover?!

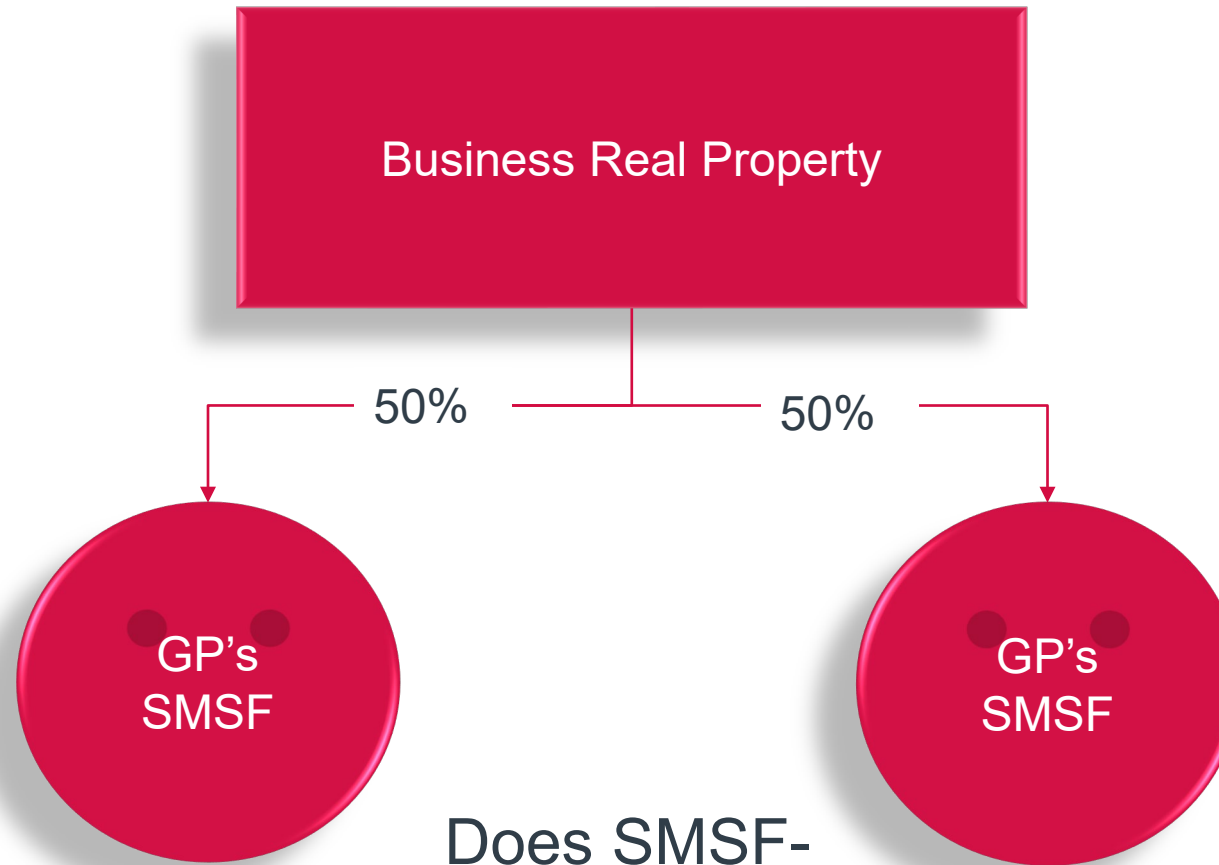


# SMSF-owned buy/sell

- Avoid, if possible (ATO ID)
- Self-owned, with premiums funded from company trading account
  - Otherwise, private ruling
- Check licensee standards



# SMSF Liquidity



Does SMSF-  
owned  
insurance  
help?

# BRP – SMSF owns cover

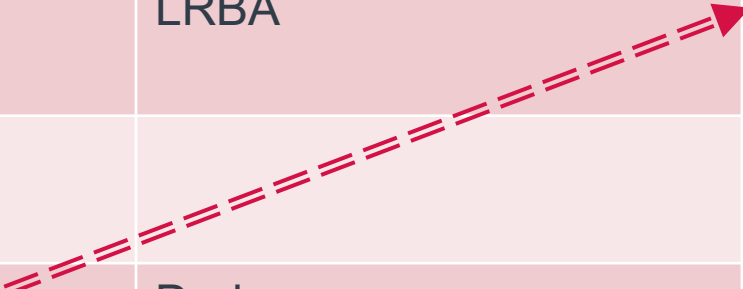
| Assets                 |     | Liab + Equity |       |
|------------------------|-----|---------------|-------|
| Business Real Property | 800 | LRBA          | (500) |
| Cash                   | 200 |               |       |
|                        |     | Dad           | 250   |
|                        |     | Mum           | 250   |

# BRP – SMSF owns cover

| Assets                   |     | Liab + Equity |              |
|--------------------------|-----|---------------|--------------|
| Business Real Property   | 800 | LRBA          | (500)        |
| Cash                     | 200 |               |              |
| Proceeds from life cover | 500 | Dad           | 250 +<br>500 |
|                          |     | Mum           | 250          |

# BRP – SMSF owns cover

| Assets                   |     | Liab + Equity |           |
|--------------------------|-----|---------------|-----------|
| Business Real Property   | 800 | LRBA          | (500)     |
| Cash                     | 200 |               |           |
| Proceeds from life cover | 500 | Dad           | 250 + 500 |
|                          |     | Mum           | 250       |



# BRP – SMSF owns cover

| Assets                              |                | Liab + Equity   |                |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Business Real Property              | 800            | <del>LRBA</del> | <del>Nil</del> |
| Cash                                | 200            |                 |                |
| <del>Proceeds from life cover</del> | <del>nil</del> | Dad             | 250 +<br>500   |
|                                     |                | Mum             | 250            |

# BRP – SMSF owns cover

| Assets                              |                | Liab + Equity   |                |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Business Real Property              | 800            | <del>LRBA</del> | <del>Nil</del> |
| Cash                                | 200            |                 |                |
| <del>Proceeds from life cover</del> | <del>nil</del> | Dad             | 250 +<br>500   |
|                                     |                | Mum             | 250            |

Still need to pay a \$750k death benefit!

# Cross owned (non-super) by business partners

| Assets                 |     | Liab + Equity |       |
|------------------------|-----|---------------|-------|
| Business Real Property | 800 | LRBA          | (500) |
| Cash                   | 200 |               |       |
|                        |     | Dad           | 250   |
|                        |     | Mum           | 250   |

# Cross owned by business partners

| Assets                                            |                | Liab + Equity |       |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------|
| <del>Business Real Property</del>                 | <del>800</del> | LRBA          | (500) |
| Cash                                              | 200            |               |       |
| Cash (consideration for purchase of BRP interest) | 800            | Dad           | 250   |
|                                                   |                | Mum           | 250   |

Surviving GP uses ordinary life proceeds to acquire BRP interest from SMSF

# Cross owned by business partners

| Assets                                            |                | Liab + Equity |     |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----|
| <del>Business Real Property</del>                 | <del>800</del> | LRBA          | Nil |
| Cash                                              | 200            |               |     |
| Cash (consideration for purchase of BRP interest) | 300            | Dad           | 250 |
|                                                   |                | Mum           | 250 |

# Liquidity for SMSF with BRP

- Fund-owned life cover likely to be unworkable
- Consider insurance outside the SMSF



# Residential Property – SMSF owns cover

| Assets               |     | Liab + Equity |       |
|----------------------|-----|---------------|-------|
| Residential Property | 800 | LRBA          | (500) |
| Cash                 | 200 |               |       |
|                      |     | Dad           | 250   |
|                      |     | Mum           | 250   |

# Residential Property – SMSF owns cover

| Assets                    |     | Liab + Equity |              |
|---------------------------|-----|---------------|--------------|
| Residential Property      | 800 | LRBA          | (500)        |
| Cash                      | 200 |               |              |
| Proceeds from life policy | 500 | Dad           | 250 +<br>500 |
|                           |     | Mum           | 250          |

# Residential Property – SMSF owns cover

| Assets                    |     | Liab + Equity |              |
|---------------------------|-----|---------------|--------------|
| Residential Property      | 800 | LRBA          | (500)        |
| Cash                      | 200 |               |              |
| Proceeds from life policy | 500 | Dad           | 250 +<br>500 |
|                           |     | Mum           | 250          |

# Residential Property – SMSF owns cover

| Assets                               |                | Liab + Equity   |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Residential Property                 | 800            | <del>LRBA</del> | <del>Nil</del> |
| Cash                                 | 200            |                 |                |
| <del>Proceeds from life policy</del> | <del>Nil</del> | Dad             | 250 +<br>500   |
|                                      |                | Mum             | 250            |

SMSF-owned cover - workable - in a Mum/Dad SMSF

# Non-tax dependants

- s307-290 ITAA 1997 – SMSF trustee elects, from inception, not to claim premiums as deduction
- Avoiding untaxed element



# Practical application

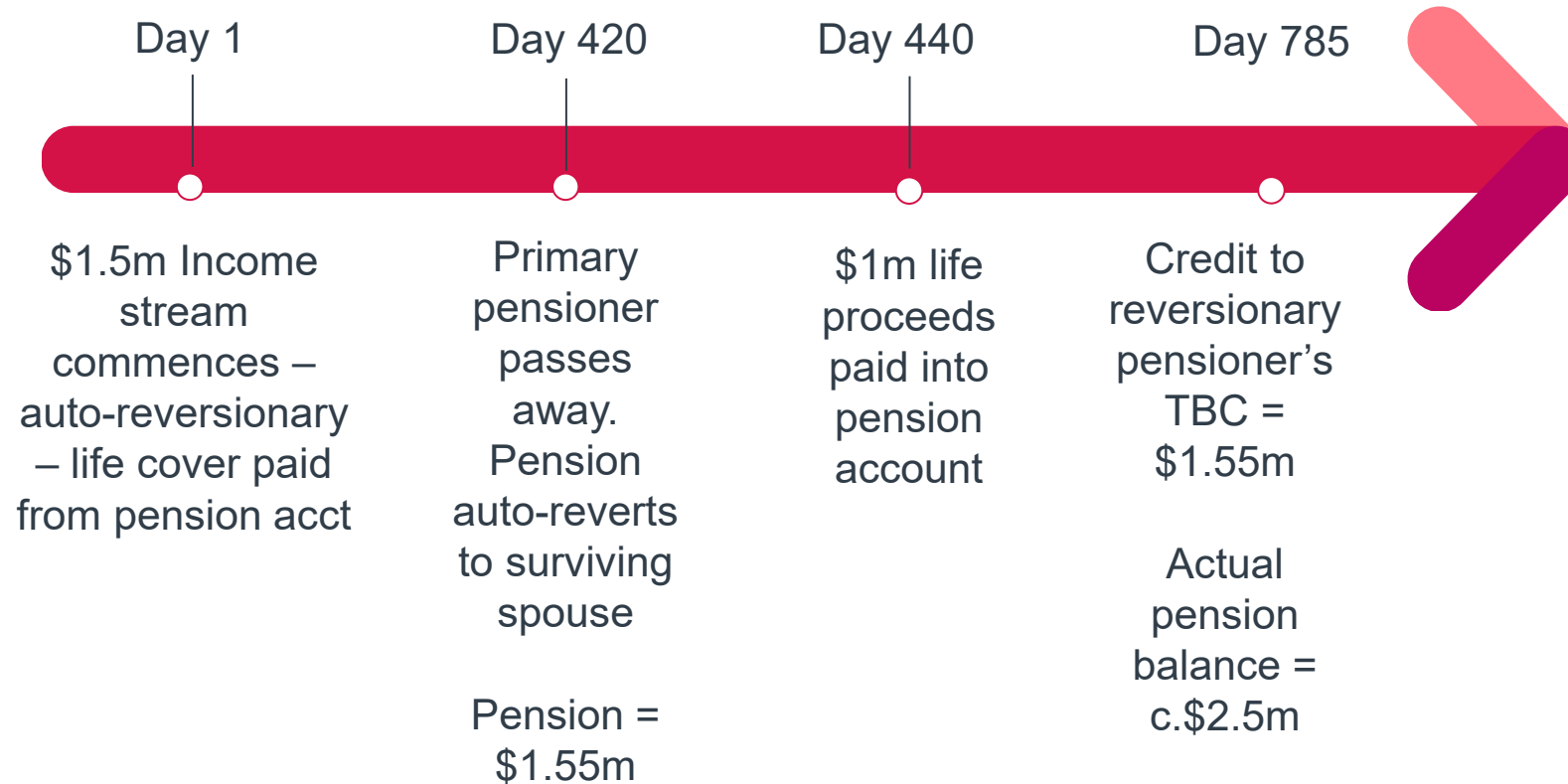
- Blended family
- Client (50) wants \$1m insurance = adult biological children as beneficiaries
  - Super-owned cover
  - Annual premium = \$1,200
- Already has \$1.2m in SMSF
  - ESP = 1/1/96



# Untaxed element

| Year                                                     | 2              | 4             | 6             | 8             | 10            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Foregone tax benefit – not claiming premium (cumulative) | 421            | 1008          | 1811          | 2921          | 4397          |
| Tax on untaxed element avoided                           | 227,993        | 192,899       | 157,852       | 122,758       | 87,711        |
| Actual tax payable – adult beneficiaries                 | 121,121        | 102,477       | 83,859        | 65,215        | 46,596        |
| <b>Net benefit</b>                                       | <b>106,871</b> | <b>90,421</b> | <b>73,993</b> | <b>57,542</b> | <b>41,114</b> |

# Auto-reversionary - SMSF





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# Thank you

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